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RURAL DISTRICT

OF

CHICHESTER.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1 9 4 2.

Public Health Department,
East Pallant House,
Chichester.

July, 1943.

To The Chairman and Members
of the CHICHESTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my fourth Annual Report on the Health of the Chichester Rural District and the work of the Public Health Department during the year 1942. The Report is the tenth in the series.

Owing to war conditions, the Minister of Health has given instructions that the present Report should be curtailed, and that for security reasons all reference to local populations and activities in connection with war-time, industrial, military, or other important developments such as extensions of water supply, sewerage works, or other public utility undertakings, should be omitted.

In spite of the increased pressure of war conditions there is no apparent deterioration in the general health of the community, and there has been no notable feature regarding the prevalence of infectious or other diseases in the district during the year.

The birth rate, 18.90 per 1,000 population, shows a slight increase over that of the previous year which was itself, a record rate for the district, whilst the death rate of 11.42 per 1,000 population shows an almost equal decrease. These improvements in rates were due in part to an actual increase in the number of births and an actual decrease in the number of deaths, and in part to a lowering by 1,270 of the Registrar General's estimate of the District's population at mid 1942.

The diphtheria immunisation campaign has been continued throughout the year, it being estimated that at the end of the year 38% of children under five years and 61% of children aged five to fifteen years had received a course of protective inoculations. The percentage of children under five years who have been immunised is still disappointing and an intensive campaign to improve this position is at present in progress.

Civil Defence work of various kinds continues to occupy a large part of the Sanitary Inspectors time, Mr. Taylor being First Aid Commandant and Mr. Lewis Chief Warden for the District. Mr. Watts, the Casualty Service Staff Officer and Lay Assistant, has been able to devote a somewhat greater part of his time to Public Health duties, particularly milk sampling.

In conclusion, I wish to tender my thanks to the members of the Council for their continued support, and to all members of the Staff for their loyal co-operation and assistance during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

ERIC WARD

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health.

Eric Ward, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspectors.

S.T. Taylor : x ✕

L.J. Lewis : x

W.K. Fripp ✕ e (On Active Service).

Civil Defence Casualty Services
Staff Officer & Lay Assistant

H.E. Watts.

Clerical Staff.

Chief Clerk - Leonard Bailey.

J.W. Westbrook

Mrs. M.P. Reynish - resigned 31st October, 1942.

Miss P. Stevenson - resigned 9th July, 1942.

Mrs. T. Fincham - appointed 12th October, 1942.

Mrs. E.P. Sabine - appointed 1st June, 1942, resigned 31st July, 1942.

Mrs. M.E. Begg - appointed 4th August, 1942, resigned 31st Oct. 1942.

Mrs. R.E. Turrell - appointed 4th August, 1942.

Miss V. Dugdale - appointed 4th August, 1942.

R. Austin - On Active Service from 6th June, 1942.

: Inspector's Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute.

x Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspecting
Meat and other Foods.

✕ Certificate of the Institute of Hygiene.

✕ Additional Sanitary Inspector.

e Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspector's
Joint Examination Board.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

1. General Statistics.

Area in Acres	103,008
Rateable Value (31st December, 1942)	£ 303,051
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (March, 1943)	£ 1,136

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics.

Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population:	18.90
Still birth rate per 1,000 of total (live and still) births:	27.23
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population:	11.42
Maternal Mortality Rate:	Nil
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:	
All Infants per 1,000 live births:	43.55
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births:	46.66
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births:	Nil

Section 1.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

The main changes in the district during the year have been a great intensification of agriculture and forestry, the carrying out of other constructional works and the occupation of private premises for Service needs.

The developments in agriculture and the shortage of man power have necessitated the employment of a considerable number of women on the land.

Although this district is still officially an evacuation area the number of evacuees accommodated has gradually fallen. At the end of the year there were 1,080 persons officially billeted in the area.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The BIRTH RATE is 18.90 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 17.28 for the previous year, 15.8 for England and Wales, and 15.70 and 16.76 for Urban and Rural Districts of West Sussex.

The illegitimate live births numbered 43, an increase of 3 on the previous year.

After adjustment for transfers, 18 stillbirths were registered during the year.

The DEATH RATE is 11.42 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 13.31 for the previous year, 11.6 for England and Wales and 16.50 and 12.76 for Urban and Rural Districts of West Sussex.

The following were the chief causes of death in order of frequency:-

1. Diseases of the heart and circulatory system.
2. Cancer
3. Intra-cranial lesions of vascular origin.
4. Respiratory diseases, excluding tuberculosis.
5. Suicide and other forms of violence
6. All forms of tuberculosis..

These six causes accounted for 75.77% of the total deaths, 65.04% of which occurred in persons aged 65 years or over.

Compared with the previous year there has been a slight increase in the deaths due to diseases of the heart and circulatory system, notwithstanding a decrease in the total deaths recorded. For purposes of comparison, the percentage of deaths due to diseases of the heart and circulatory system during the year 1941 was 29, and 36 for the year 1942.

Cancer, with 56 deaths, a decrease of 7 over the figure for the previous year continues to occupy the second place in order of frequency

Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis were 13, as compared with 27 in the previous year.

Maternal Deaths.

There were no deaths directly due to pregnancy or child bearing recorded during the year, as compared with 1 for the year 1941. The Maternal Mortality Rate for England and Wales is 2.01 per 1,000 live births and 3.2 for the Urban Districts of West Sussex.

Infantile Mortality.

The INFANT MORTALITY RATE is 43.55 per 1,000 births, as compared with 40.66 for the previous year, 49 for England and Wales and 40 and 42 for the Urban and Rural Districts of West Sussex.

The death rate amongst legitimate infants per 1,000 live births is 43.55 as compared with 35.37 in 1941.

There were no deaths of illegitimate children under one year of age during the year 1942.

Section II

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Staff.

Full particulars of the Staff of the Department are given at the beginning of the report.

Laboratory Facilities

The Council has continued to make a grant to the Medical Research Council for the services provided under the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Scheme. This arrangement has been found eminently satisfactory. The laboratories to which work is sent are the Emergency Laboratory, Christ's Hospital, Horsham and the associated laboratories of the West Sussex County Council and Royal West Sussex Hospital.

Details of examinations made during the year are given on the following page.

Nature of Specimen	Emergency Public Health Laboratory Horsham		West Sussex County Council Laboratory		Royal West Sussex Hospital Laboratory	
	Number examined	Number positive	Number examined	Number positive	Number examined	Number pos.
Nose and throat swabs for diphtheria	19	1	14	1	5	-
Nose and throat swabs for other conditions	16	2	3	-	57	26
Urine and stools for enteric organisms	5	-	-	-	-	-
Other examinations	2	1	-	-	22	7
Water examinations	-	-	148	-	-	-
Milk examinations	-	-	203	-	-	-
	42	4	368	1	84	33

Ambulance Facilities.

The Council do not possess any Ambulances but the following arrangements for the removal of patients to Hospitals and other similar Institutions are in operation :-

(a) Cases of Infectious Disease: The Infectious Disease Ambulances of the Chichester Corporation and Bognor Regis Urban District Council are used for the removal of these cases.

(b) Non-infectious cases: Ambulances belonging to the following bodies are available for use in the Rural District :-

- (i) St. John Ambulance Brigade - Chichester Division.
- (ii) British Red Cross and St. John Ambulance Committee, Havant.
- (iii) Bognor Regis Urban District Council.
- (iv) British Red Cross Society's Ambulance at Slindon.

During the year the Council made a donation of £5 to the Havant and District Voluntary Ambulance Committee, and entered into an agreement with the Bognor Regis Urban District Council to pay an annual retaining fee of £75 plus a charge of 1/- per mile for journeys made by the ambulance in certain Parishes within the Rural District. Efforts are made to recover the mileage costs from the patients conveyed, but in necessitous cases the costs are borne by the District Council.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

General: Home Nursing is undertaken by the District Nurses employed by the Local Nursing Associations. There are in the District 19 Local Nursing Associations, who employ 23 District Nurses.

Infectious Diseases: The arrangements made with the West Sussex County Nursing Association for the nursing of cases of Measles, Pneumonia and German Measles have been continued.

Midwifery: There are twenty-five practising midwives resident in the District, 21 of these being Nurse Midwives, the remainder being Independent Midwives. In addition, 5 Midwives resident in adjoining areas take cases in the Rural District.

Treatment Centres, Clinics and Hospitals.

The following list summarizes the various Health and Welfare services provided by the West Sussex County Council and in operation during the year :-

Infant Welfare Centres - held at Chichester, Bognor Regis, Aldingbourne, Felpham, Southbourne, Walberton and Yapton.

Ante-Natal Clinics - held at Chichester, Bognor Regis, Felpham and Southbourne.

School Clinics (Minor Ailments) - held at Chichester, Bognor Regis and Selsey.

Eye Clinic - held at Chichester.

Aural Clinic - held at Chichester.

Orthopaedic Clinic - held at Chichester.

Speech Therapy Clinics - held at Chichester and Bognor Regis.

Tuberculosis Dispensary - held at Chichester.

Venereal Diseases Clinics - held at Worthing Hospital and the Royal Portsmouth Hospital.

(a) Hospitals - provided or maintained by the Chichester Rural District Council.

(1) Infectious Diseases:- (a) The arrangements detailed in previous Reports for the reservation of five beds, in the Bognor Regis Isolation Hospital, and ten beds in the City of Chichester Isolation Hospital, have been continued.

(2) Minor Ailments:- (a) Itchenor Park Auxiliary Hospital.

(b) Hospitals - provided or maintained by the West Sussex County Council.

(1) General Hospitals:- (a) St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester.
(b) East Sussex County Council, Southlands Hospital, Shoreham-by-Sea.

(2) Tuberculosis:- (a) Aldingbourne House Sanatorium.
(b) Worthing Isolation Hospital.
(c) Worthing Hospital.

(3) Maternity:- (a) Royal West Sussex Hospital.
(b) Sussex Maternity and Women's Hospital, Brighton.
(c) East Sussex County Council, Southlands Hospital, Shoreham-by-Sea.
(d) Worthing Hospital.
(e) Improvised Maternity Homes at Haslemere and Hindhead.

(4) Sick Children:- (a) East Sussex County Council, Southlands Hospital.
(b) St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester.

(5) Smallpox:-

(a) Brighton Smallpox Hospital, Fulking, by arrangement with the West Sussex County Council and Brighton Corporation.

(c) Voluntary Hospitals serving the District:

(a) Royal West Sussex Hospital.
(b) Bognor Regis Memorial Hospital.
(c) Arundel Cottage Hospital.

Itchenor Park Auxiliary Hospital.

Owing to the continued reduction in the number of evacuees in the District, this hospital, which was established in October, 1939 by the Chichester Rural District Council to provide treatment for unaccompanied child evacuees suffering from minor ailments, became redundant and was closed with the approval of the Ministry of Health on the 31st March, 1942; the premises were handed back to the owner on the 25th April, 1942.

During the three months the hospital was open in 1942, nine children were admitted, the majority of them suffering from scabies and impetigo.

With the closing of Itchenor Park, arrangements were made with the Midhurst Rural District Council for evacuee children billeted in this district to be admitted to the Canavan Auxiliary Hospital, Cocking, near Midhurst. Twelve children were admitted to 'Canavan' from this district during the year.

Section III.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

Water is supplied to the greater part of the district by four statutory water undertakers, namely the Chichester Rural District Council which serves the western portion of the district, the Chichester City Corporation which serves the central area, the Bognor Regis Urban District Council which serves the eastern part of the district and the Selsey Water Company which supplies the southern portion of district. The latter Company is a distributory company only, the water being obtained in bulk from the Chichester City Waterworks. The water supplied by all four undertakings is chlorinated and the supplies have been satisfactory throughout the year both as regards quantity and quality.

Chichester Rural District Council Water Undertaking.

No alterations have been made at the Waterworks and no extensions to existing water mains have been carried out during the year.

A total of 14 samples of raw water were taken from the wells at the Waterworks for bacteriological examination, 12 of which showed a satisfactory degree of bacterial purity, the remaining two samples were reported to show a slight degree of bacterial impurity due to soil contamination.

Chichester City Corporation Undertaking.

Reports on forty samples taken at the Waterworks and from distribution mains were received during the year, all of which were satisfactory.

Bognor Regis Urban District Council Undertaking.

The use of standpipes for the supply of the bungalows at Pagham Beach was discontinued and each bungalow now requiring a supply of water must have an independent connection to the main and a tap on the premises.

During the year three reports on water samples taken from distribution mains in this district were received, all of which were entirely satisfactory.

Selsey Water Company.

No extension of mains was made during the year.

Other Supplies.

The high standard of purity of the water in the public wells at Singleton and Charlton has been maintained and the improvement in the samples taken from the Hermitage well has continued.

During the year 14 samples were taken from these wells all of which showed a high degree of bacterial purity.

Samples have been taken from seven private estate wells and distribution mains. Reports on these samples show in some cases considerable fluctuation in the quality of the water from some sources, whilst from others the supplies are persistently of doubtful quality. The most satisfactory way of dealing with these conditions is the installation of small chlorination plants at the various sources.

In all 35 samples ^{taken} were/ from private estate undertakings during the year. Of these, 29 were satisfactory, 4 suspicious and 2 were unsatisfactory.

Fewer samples were taken from private individual wells than in the previous year, the number of samples submitted to the County Laboratory during 1942 being 64. Of these samples, 13 were reported to be of satisfactory bacterial purity, 7 were suspicious, whilst the remaining 44 samples showed a high degree of bacterial impurity. Of the 64 samples referred to, 32 were taken from wells in connection with the emergency water supply scheme, and were not from sources of supply normally used for human consumption.

In addition, 20 samples were taken during the year from wells supplying Council Cottages, and of these, 12 were found to be satisfactory, 2 of a suspicious nature, with the remaining 6 samples proving unsatisfactory. Of the unsatisfactory samples, 3 were from one well supplying a group of cottages at East Dean.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No extensions of sewers have been carried out during the year, but connections to the new sewers in Selsey and Middleton-on-Sea have continued.

During the year a total of 144 premises were connected to existing sewers in the undermentioned parishes :-

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>No. of connections.</u>
Bosham	1
Middleton-on-Sea .	120
Selsey	7
Stoughton .	7
Westbourne	9
	<u>144.</u>

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No action has been taken to check the pollution of rivers and streams in the area.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

(a) HOUSE REFUSE: The arrangements for Public Cleansing as detailed in the last report have continued. During the year 3,515 tons of refuse were collected. The refuse is disposed of in tips at Middleton-on-Sea, Selsey and Summersdale (Chichester), the use of tips at Aldingbourne and Westbourne having been discontinued.

(b) SALVAGE SCHEME. The collection and disposal of salvage has continued throughout the year, the total weight collected and the value of same both show a considerable increase over the figures for the previous year. Details of material collected and sold are given below :-

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>	<u>Lbs.</u>	<u>£.</u>	<u>s.</u>	<u>d.</u>
Paper, Books etc.	221	12	3	27	1,865.	10.	4.
Rags and Bagging	13	6	2	27	337.	7.	7.
Iron	36	0	0	0	68.	11.	1.
Bottles (321 gross)	19	0	0	0)			
Paste Jars and Containers	7	6	0	4)	159.	16.	3.
Bones	9	13	3	0	39.	19.	9.
Rubber	14	0	2	0	14.	19.	10.
Non-Ferrous Metals	-	15	1	18	7.	5.	5.
Tins	135	19	2	0	67.	19.	8.
					£ 2,561.	9.	11.

(c) CESSPOOLS.

The Council operates a cesspool emptying service in the parishes of East and West Wittering and in the uncovered areas of the parishes of Bosham, Middleton-on-Sea, Selsey and Westbourne. Four vacuum tank machines were in use at the beginning of the year and an additional machine was purchased and put into service in September. For various reasons 244 vehicle days time was lost during the year.

In addition to the routine services mentioned above, cesspools were emptied in other parts of the district on request and payment, and considerable work was done at premises occupied by Service Authorities.

Disposal of cesspool contents is mainly into the various sewerage systems available but a little is deposited on agricultural land.

(d) SERVICE OCCUPATION OF VACATED DWELLING HOUSES.

The occupation by Service Authorities of premises which depend on cesspools as a means of drainage is still an extremely serious problem especially in the coastal areas. The cesspools fill rapidly and often cause serious nuisances. Sufficient machines are not available to empty the cesspools as often as is required and the expenditure of petrol and man-power involved in such emptying is most excessive, a single cesspool sometimes taking two men a whole day and involves the running of a machine a distance of 60-80 miles if the contents are disposed of at the nearest Sewerage Works or 25-30 miles if the contents are run out on to agricultural land. In order to minimise these difficulties the Service Authorities have in some instances constructed septic tanks which discharge a semi-purified effluent into tidal waters or have laid pipes from cesspools whereby the overflow discharges in the shingle. These practises would not be tolerated in normal times but under present conditions these are probably less injurious to health than nuisances caused by overflowing cesspools.

(e) CLOSETS.

No alterations have been made in the arrangements of the Council for the collection of night soil. Some difficulties have been experienced with regard to the disposal of pail closet contents from small Service Units. The work of collection and disposal is usually left by the Service Authorities to civilian contractors who at times

have deposited the contents on sites where it is likely to endanger public water supplies. In collaboration with the Water Engineers concerned, the attention of the Service Authorities has been called to this problem and sites where dumping cannot be permitted have been pointed out. The matter has received constant attention during the year.

Shops Act, 1934.

At the end of the year, there was 387 shops on the register. During the year 156 visits and inspections were made to premises on the register.

Number of defects found on inspection	14
Insufficient or unsuitable ventilation	2
Sanitary defects	13
Number of defects remedied	21

Factories Act, 1937.

There are 193 establishments situate in the district coming within the scope of the Factories Act, 1937, of which 86 are provided with mechanical power.

During the year 147 inspections of factory premises were made, and the following list summarises the various defects found, which, with one exception were suitably remedied :-

<u>Nature of Defect.</u>	<u>Number found.</u>	<u>Number remedied.</u>
1. Want of cleanliness	4	4
2. Want of ventilation	2	2
3. Drainage of floor	1	1
4. Sanitary accommodation:-		
(a) Insufficient	3	3
(b) Unsuitable	1	1
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-
5. Other nuisances	5	4

Notification was received that 11 persons resident in the district were employed during the year as Outworkers, all of whom were engaged in the clothing trade.

Smoke Abatement.

There has been no need for action in this matter.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are two swimming pools in the district, and both of these have been closed for the duration of the war.

Camping Sites.

Owing to the Camping Restrictions Order 1940, no camping sites have been in use during the year, but structures are standing on the various sites in all stages of dilapidation. No action has been possible regarding these structures.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Five houses were found to be infested with bed bugs during the year. Instructions were given to the tenants and Zaldecide solution supplied.

Rats and Mice.

Farmers, Estate Agents, Land Occupiers, etc., were advised on anti-rat measures, and a considerable quantity of poison was issued.

Thirty visits and fourteen informal notices were served and the necessary steps were taken to reduce infestations.

Mosquitoes.

Two complaints were received in respect of mosquitoes. Suspected breeding places were dealt with by spraying.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises in the district on which rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

Schools.

There has been no change in the number of public elementary schools in the district. At Fishbourne C.E. School the sanitary conveniences have been improved, water closets being provided in substitution for the existing pail closets, and the premises are now provided with a drainage system connected to the Council's sewer. At Stoughton and Racton C.E. School a sample of water taken from the well showed a high degree of bacterial impurity, and chlorination of the water was advised. No schools were closed during the year on account of infectious disease.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

There are two Sanitary Inspectors, each having charge of a portion of the district. The Sanitary Inspector in charge of the smaller Eastern Area is also responsible for the supervision of the Public Cleansing throughout the District. There is also an additional Sanitary Inspector, but he has been absent on service with His Majesty's Forces throughout the year.

Summary of Sanitary Work and Improvements under Public Health and Housing Acts.

No. of inspections in regard to infectious disease	269
No. of premises disinfected after infectious disease	102
No. of verminous premises disinfected	5
No. of nuisances found to exist	210
No. of nuisances abated	175
Cases of overcrowding ascertained	3
Cases of overcrowding abated	2
Offensive accumulations found	45
Offensive accumulations removed	44
Keeping animals so as to be a nuisance:-	
Instances ascertained	5
Abated	4
Additional sanitary conveniences provided to premises where insufficient accommodation existed	2
W.C.'s fitted with flushing cisterns (previously hand flushed)	27
E.C.'s converted to W.C.'s	33
Privies converted to W.C.'s	7
Defective W.C.'s repaired	26
Defective E.C.'s repaired	8
No. of houses provided with main water inside	34
No. of houses provided with sinks	19
No. of new drains laid (to existing premises)	139
No. of defective drains repaired	60
No. of choked drains cleared	125
No. of cesspools abolished	133
No. of ashbins provided	10
No. of yards paved	-
No. of defective windows repaired	40
No. of windows made to open	4
No. of roofs repaired	57

No. of houses where guttering and rainwater pipes have been repaired	30
No. of defective walls and ceilings where plastering has been repaired	34
No. of walls and ceilings cleansed	52
No. of damp walls treated, repointed or rendered	19
No. of damp floors relaid	5
No. of water samples taken for analysis	148
No. of water samples found unfit for drinking	59
No. of wells cleansed	14
No. of instances in which public supply has been substituted for well water	34

Summary:-

Total number of inspections made for all purposes	4284
Total number of notices served:	
Informal	376
Statutory	1
Total number of summonses issued	1
Convictions obtained	1
Complaints received	216
Complaints found justified and dealt with	118

Section IV.

HOUSING.

Slum Clearance.

No action has been taken during the year with regard to slum clearance.

Housing Statistics.

No new houses have been erected during the year.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:-

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	438
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	695
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925	179
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	321
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	76

2. Remedying of defects during the year without service of formal notice:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	83
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3. Remedying of defects during the year with service of formal notice:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of formal action by the Local Authority or their officers	Nil
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4. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:- Nil

C. HOUSING ACT 1936 - Overcrowding:-

(a) i. No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	Nil
ii. No. of families dwelling therein	Nil
iii. No. of persons dwelling therein	Nil
(b) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	3
(c) i. No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	2
ii. No. of persons concerned in such cases	32
(d) No. of cases in which dwelling-houses again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil

Section V.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

No. of Farms in the District registered for milk production	260	X
No. of Cows in the District, approximately	2,800	
No. of Farms producing Designated Milk	142	
(a) Tuberculin Tested	24	
(b) Accredited	118	
No. of farms producing Non-Designated Milk	95	
No. of Dairymen (cowkeepers and milk sellers) etc.	259	
No. of these registered as wholesalers	148	
No. registered as Retailers	70	
No. registered as Wholesalers and Retailers	35	
No. of Dairymen in the District exempt from registration by reason of not keeping cows for sale of milk	6	

X This figure includes 23 farms registered, but not producing.

Cowsheds and Milkshops:

No. of inspections made	522
No. of inspections during milking time	276
No. of contraventions of the Regulations found	121

Number of premises found to require:-

(a) Cleansing	43
(b) Structural or sanitary improvements	24
(c) Other contraventions	54

Number of these requirements carried out:-

(a) Cleansing	43
(b) Structural	20
(c) Other contraventions abated	52

Water Supply to Dairy Premises:

	<u>Public</u> <u>Supply</u>	<u>Well</u> <u>Water</u>	<u>Private</u> <u>Estate</u> <u>Reservoirs.</u>
Cowsheds and Dairies	123	88	48

Milk Sampling.

Much interest has been taken in this matter in various official quarters during the year. The duty of milk sampling is divided between the Rural District Council and the County Council, the County Council being responsible for the sampling of producers holding licences to produce Tuberculin Tested and Accredited Milk, whilst the District Council supervises other producers.

Following the appointment of a County Sanitary Officer in 1941, there has been considerably increased sampling of designated milks throughout the district by the County Authority, and the large proportion of unsatisfactory results obtained clearly showed the need for a thorough investigation into cleanliness of undesignated milk produced in the district. Whilst there are no legal tests for cleanliness of milk laid down in any of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, the Methylene Blue Test as applied to Tuberculin Tested and Accredited Milks under the Milk (Special Designations) Order is a cheap, rapid and convenient method of accessing the cleanliness of milk. The basis of the test is the power of bacteria to decolourise Methylene Blue, the rate of decolourisation depending on the number of bacteria present in the milk. A milk sample is considered satisfactory if it is not decolourised in $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours in summer and $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours in winter. This standard of cleanliness can be obtained if reasonable care is taken in methods of milking and in the cleanliness of utensils.

Until the year under review, no regular sampling of non-designated milk has been carried out but occasional random samples have been taken since 1940, the number of these being 57 in 1940 and 93 in 1941. It will be seen that these samples did not amount to one sample per year from each producer. Sampling continued on these lines for the first half of 1942, after which an attempt was made to set up a regular system of quarterly sampling of all non-designated producers, with 'follow up' samples in the intervening months where the routine samples proved unsatisfactory. In the work of sampling the Sanitary Inspectors have the help of the Lay Assistant in the Department.

During the year, 197 samples of undesignated milk were submitted for Methylene Blue Test at the County Laboratory, 133 samples being collected by the Sanitary Inspectors and 64 by the Lay Assistant. Of the total, 141 samples were collected during the second half of the year after the routine system of sampling had been commenced.

Reports on samples submitted showed that 130 or 66% were equal to the standard required for accredited milk.

In addition to samples of undesignated milk examined by the Methylene Blue Test, 3 samples were submitted for Biological Test for Tubercle Bacilli and of these 2 were found to be positive. In each instance a cow suffering from tuberculosis was eventually found in the herd from which the positive sample of milk had been taken. Both cows in question were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938. As in one case the disease could not be detected on clinical examination, the search for the diseased cow had to be made by means of Biological tests of individual and group samples. This procedure took over four months to complete. During most of this period the milk from the herd in question must have contained living tubercle bacilli. The high percentage of positive samples clearly shows the need for a great increase in the number of samples submitted for biological tests. However clean and apparently satisfactory a sample may appear when tested by the Methylene Blue test it may contain dangerous pathological bacteria.

Cleanliness of production is no safeguard against tuberculosis or contagious abortion in the cows: and T.T. or accredited milk is just as exposed as ungraded milk to infection from human sources. Though the ultimate ideal may be clean milk produced from disease-free herds and protected from human contamination, there is no other immediate practical solution to the problem of supplying safe milk to the public but pasteurization.

Summary of Samples of Undesignated Milk taken by
Officials of the Rural District Council.

	No. of samples	Satisfactory	%	Unsatisfactory	%
Occasional and Routine Samples	154	101	66	53	34
'Follow up' Samples	43	29	67	14	33
Biological Tests for Tubercle Bacilli	3	1	33	2	67
TOTALS	200	131		69	

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936 - 1942.

The following Licences have been granted during the year :-

(a) By Chichester Rural District Council :-

Tuberculin Tested Milk

(1) Dealers Licences	5
(2) Supplementary Licences	2

Pasteurised Milk

(1) Supplementary Licences	3
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(b) By West Sussex County Council :-

Producer's Licences :-

(1) Tuberculin Tested	23(6)
(2) Accredited	118(6)

(c) By Ministry of Health :-

Producer's Licence :-

(1) Tuberculin Tested	1
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The figures in brackets denote the number of Producers who also hold Licences to bottle milk. No Producers' Licences were revoked during the year. One Accredited Licence was relinquished by the Producer during the year.

During the year, 644 samples of designated milks were examined at the County Laboratory by the Methylene Blue Test. Of these samples, 628 were collected by the Staff of the West Sussex County Health Department, the remaining 16 being collected by this Council's Sanitary Inspectors.

The following table shows details of the 644 samples examined :-

Designation	No. of samples	Satisfactory	%	Unsatisfactory	%
Tuberculin Tested	112	80	71	32	29
Accredited	527	400	76	127	24
Pasteurised	5	5	100	-	-
TOTALS	644	485		159	

Legal Proceedings.

It was not necessary to take any action under the Orders and Regulations during the year.

Meats and Other Foods.

The Ministry of Food continued their use of the Slaughterhouse at Aldsworth until 19th June, 1942 when all slaughtering previously carried out there was transferred to Paulsgrove, Portsmouth. Since that time the Slaughter House has remained closed.

No regular slaughtering has been carried out at any of the other slaughter houses in the district, all of them being closed under the Livestock (Restriction of Slaughtering) Order 1940. All meat for sale in

the district is slaughtered elsewhere. Inspection of Butchers shops, vehicles and carts has continued.

During the year a licence was granted for the use as a Knackers Yard, premises that were previously in occupation as a slaughter-house. The premises have only been put to occasional use during the year.

Details of inspections carried out during the year
were as follows :-

Inspections of Slaughterhouses under Meat Regulations	129
Number of Inspections to Butchers' Shops	148
Number of Inspections to Vehicles or Carts	28

During the year, 11 informal notices were served for contraventions of the Byelaws. All 11 notices were complied with.

The following table shows details of carcasses killed, inspected and condemned at the Aldsworth Slaughter House:

	<u>Cattle</u> (including Cows).	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Sheep</u> and <u>Lambs</u>
Number killed	1543	3320	4806
Number inspected	1277	2666	3890
<u>Condemned for all diseases</u> <u>except Tuberculosis:</u>			
Whole carcasses condemned	7	8	19
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	153	4	10
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	12.5	.45	0.5
<u>Condemned for Tuberculosis only:</u>			
Whole carcasses condemned	35	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	99	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	10.5	-	-

In addition the following carcasses were inspected at other slaughter houses, special permission for slaughtering having been given by the Ministry of Food.

	<u>Pigs.</u>
Number of Animals Killed	34
Number of Animals Inspected	34
Carcasses affected with diseases other than T.B.	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned for Tuberculosis	3
Percentage of number inspected with Tuberculosis	11.3

Details of meat condemned in butchers shops during the year :-

Mutton Trimmings	28 lbs.	affected with putrefaction.
Bovine from quarter trimmings	5 bs.	" " "
Boned out Beef	76 lbs.	" " "
Corned Beef 5-10 lb. tins	50 lbs.	tins blown or punctured.
Corned Beef 21-6 lb. tins	126 lbs.	" " "

Corned Beef 2-12 oz.tins 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. tins blown or punctured.
Pork Luncheon Meat 7-1 Lb. 7 lbs. " " "
tins
Pork Sausage Meat 3-1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. " " "
tins

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

During the year, two renewal licences to slaughter were granted by the Local Authority.

Bread.

There are 23 bakehouses in the district (none of them underground) of which 16 inspections have been made. Three notices were served regarding the following defects: limewashing and cleansing, water supply, all of which have been complied with.

Shell Fish.

Owing to war conditions no shellfish have been collected during the year.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Although the number of samples taken during the year shows an increase of 12 on the previous year, it is still less than half the number suggested by the Ministry of Health, namely 3 per 1,000 population, or approximately 100 for this District.

The following table supplied by the Chief Inspector of the Weights and Measures Department of the County Council, the administrative Authority for the Food adulteration sections of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, shows the number of samples taken in the District during the year and the results of examinations :-

	No. Analysed	Genuine	Not Genuine
New Milk	28	21	7 (a)
Butter	2	2	-
Margarine	1	1	-
Honey	1	1	-
Jam	2	2	-
Vinegar	1	1	-
Whiskey	1	-	1 (b)
Lemon Substitute	1	1	-
Ratafia Essence	1	1	-
Cordial	1	1	-
Camphorated Oil	1	1	-
Anti-Gas Ointment	1	1	-
(No. 2)			
TOTALS	41	33	8

- (a) Two samples were slightly deficient. Further samples proved genuine. The remaining five samples were from one vendor, a producer retailer. He was fined £5 on each of three charges of selling milk containing excess water, £5 on one charge of adding water to milk intended for sale for human consumption, and ordered to pay £8. 2. 0. costs, a total penalty of £28. 2. 0.

(b) This sample, reported by the Public Analyst to be 12.3% deficient, was taken as a result of a complaint received regarding the quality of whiskey sold in a certain hostelry. Although the complainant resided in West Sussex the source of supply was traced to an adjoining District. The information which had been obtained, together with the results of the analysis were forwarded to the Authority for that District.

In addition to the samples submitted to the Public Analyst, 55 samples of milks taken during delivery in the District were examined by the Lactometer test. The result of the test in each case was satisfactory.

Other Foods.

The following other foods were found to be unsound and were condemned :-

Cooked Ham	7 lbs.	affected with putrefaction.
Brawn	161 lbs.	" " bone taint.
Butter	28 lbs.	tainted and rancid.
Cheese	140 lbs.	affected with softening due to improper storage.
Sugar	56 lbs.	contaminated by mice.
Salmon	3-1 lb. tins	tins blown
Tinned Apples	13-28 oz. "	" "
" Peas	11-1 lb. "	" damaged
" Pilchards	3-1 lb. "	" "
" Tomatoes	3-2 lb. "	" "
" Milk	97-1 Lb. "	" blown or punctured.
Fish	40 stone	affected with putrefaction.
Eggs	30 doz.	found to be rotten
Apples (imported)	5 bushels	" " "

Section VI.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

There has been no unusual incidence of infectious or other diseases in the district during the year, apart from some increase in the prevalence of scabies and the commencement of an epidemic of measles at the end of the year.

Notifications of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from this disease have shown a gratifying decrease as compared with the previous year.

Smallpox.

No cases were notified during the year and no deaths were registered as due to this disease. Three persons who were smallpox contacts entered the District and these were kept under observation until the end of their quarantine period. None of them developed any signs of the disease.

Diphtheria.

During the year seven cases of this disease were notified as compared with four in 1941, two of them being non-civilians. One case was notified in January and two each in the months of May, July and October, the parishes affected being Westhampnett, Tangmere, Ford, Middleton-on-Sea, Yapton and Lavant. Only one of the cases was of marked severity. This was a child aged 8 years who had not been immunised. He eventually made a good recovery. Only one of the cases, a girl of 13 years, had been immunised, and although she had a considerable amount of membrane on her throat her constitutional symptoms were very slight and she made a rapid recovery. Two of the remaining cases had no clinical signs of the disease when admitted to hospital apart from positive nose and throat swabs.

Supply of Diphtheria Antitoxin.

No changes have been made with regard to the supply of antitoxin.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Considerable progress has been made during the year in the immunisation campaign although the figures quoted below appear somewhat disappointing. This is due in part to the fact that in the past the immunisation of many children resident in the Rural District had taken place in neighbouring districts and they have not been added to the Rural District figures. This position is gradually being corrected.

During the year 632 children of school age and 849 children under 5 years of age received a complete course of injections.

At the end of the year, it was estimated that 61% of the children aged 5-15 years and 38% of children aged 1-5 years had received a complete course of immunisation.

As in previous years, this immunisation was carried out by Medical Officers of the County Health Department.

Scarlet Fever.

During the year 50 cases of this disease were notified, as compared with 78 in 1941. Of the 50 cases, 43 cases were removed to hospital, 25 being admitted to the Chichester City Isolation Hospital and 18 to the Bognor Regis Isolation Hospital.

In the majority of cases, the disease was mild in character. The average length of stay in hospital was 26 days.

The cases were distributed throughout the district, 19 Parishes being affected, those with the greatest number of notifications being Westbourne with 11, Bersted with 9 and Yapton 4.

The cases occurred throughout the year, the months with the greatest incidence being April and May, with 6 and 5 notifications, and November and December with 7 and 12 notifications respectively.

Erysipelas.

Fourteen cases of this disease were notified during the year as compared with 16 in 1941. Of these, 2 cases were removed to hospital. No deaths were registered as due to this cause during the year.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis and Encephalitis Lethargica.

No cases of this disease were notified during the year but one death was registered as due to each of these conditions.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.

One case of this disease was notified in July from the Parish of East Wittering. The patient, a boy of 4 years, was removed to St. Richard's Hospital where he remained for about 3 months. He eventually made a good recovery.

Pneumonia (Acute Primary and Influenzal).

There were 4 cases of Acute Influenzal and 13 of Acute Primary Pneumonia notified during the year, as compared with 4 and 32 in 1941. The notified cases included 1 case of Acute Influenzal and 6 cases of Acute Primary Pneumonia occurring in non-civilians. Two civilian patients were removed to hospital. Deaths registered in 1942 as due to Pneumonia of all forms numbered 13.

Influenza.

During the year, one death was registered as due to this disease, as compared with 5 in the previous year.

Whooping Cough.

There were 101 cases of this disease during the year, as compared with 178 in 1941. The cases were scattered throughout the district. The Parishes with the largest number of cases were Slindon and Walberton with 14 cases, Middleton-on-Sea with 13, and Pagham with 8. The disease in the majority of cases was mild in character, only 4 cases being admitted to hospital. One death, that of a child of one year, was registered as due to this disease; this figure is the same as in the previous year.

In addition to the notified cases, 26 cases were reported by the Head Teachers of the various Schools.

Measles.

During the year 95 cases of measles were notified as compared with 625 in 1941. These cases included one non-civilian. For the first 10 months of the year the cases occurred sporadically throughout the district, but in November, 20 cases were notified, the majority being in the southern parishes of the district. The spread of the disease progressed during December when 49 cases were notified, and the peak of the epidemic was not reached until March, 1943.

The parishes most affected during 1942 were Bosham with 13 cases, Donnington with 12 cases and Westbourne with 10 cases.

In most cases the disease was mild in character, only five cases, including one non-civilian being admitted to hospital.

There was one death, a woman of 63 years of age, certified as due to measles.

Enteric Fever and Dysentery.

No cases of typhoid, para-typhoid or dysentery were notified during the year and no deaths were registered as due to these diseases.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

During the year, 3 cases of this condition were notified as compared with 4 in 1941. One patient was notified when in hospital, whilst the other two were notified at their homes, where they remained. All these patients made good recoveries. No deaths were attributed to Puerperal Sepsis or other Puerperal causes during the year.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

One case of this condition was notified during the year. The child made a complete recovery with no impairment of vision.

Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Information regarding these diseases among school children is obtained from returns made by Head Teachers of Public Elementary Schools. During the year under review the following cases of infectious and contagious disease were brought to the notice of the Department :-

Chickenpox	-	150 cases
Jaundice	-	10 "
Mumps	-	78 "
Ringworm	-	1 case.

Cancer.

The number of deaths attributed to Cancer during the year was 56 as compared with 63 during 1941. For purposes of comparison, the percentage of deaths due to Cancer during the year 1941 was 13.43, whilst the corresponding figure for the year under review is 14.43.

The following is an analysis of the age and sex distribution of all persons whose deaths were certified to be due to cancer during the year :-

Ages	Males	Females	Totals
0-15	-	-	-
15-25	-	1	1
25-35	-	-	-
35-45	-	-	-
45-55	2	4	6
55-65	8	4	12
65-75	8	7	15
75 and up	10	12	22
TOTALS	28	28	56

Tuberculosis.

During the year, 38 civilian new cases of Tuberculosis were added to the notification Register as compared with 51 in 1941. Of the 38 new cases, 29 were notified as suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and 9 from Non-Pulmonary types of this disease.

A total of 11 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis were recorded during the year as compared with 20 during 1941. Deaths from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis for the year numbered 2, a decrease of 5 compared with the previous year.

Three persons died from Tuberculosis who had not been notified in the district during life, whilst the deaths of two persons (one notified to be suffering from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis and one from Pulmonary Tuberculosis) were attributed to causes other than Tuberculosis.

The following tables give details of the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register, together with particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the year 1942 :-

NOTIFICATION REGISTER OF TUBERCULAR PATIENTS.

	Pulmonary Cases			Non-Pulmonary Cases			Total Cases (All Forms)		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1. No. on Register at 1/1/42	50	33	83	19	23	42	69	56	125
2. Cases previously removed & returning during 1942	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. New cases notified (or otherwise coming to knowledge in 1942	20	9	29	3	6	9	23	15	38
4. Cases removed from Register in 1942	70	42	112	22	29	51	92	71	163
	19	11	30	1	4	5	20	15	35
5. No. on Register at 31/12/42	51	31	82	21	25	46	72	56	128

New Cases and Mortality.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 to 1 ...	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
1 to 5 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 to 10 ...	1	-	1	2	-	-	1	-
10 to 15 ...	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
15 to 20 ...	2	1	-	1	2	-	-	-
20 to 25 ...	2	1	-	1	1	1	-	-
25 to 35 ...	4	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 to 45 ...	5	1	-	-	2	1	-	-
45 to 55 ...	2	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
55 to 65 ...	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
TOTALS	20	9	3	6	7	4	1	1

Scabies.

During the year 226 cases of Scabies have come to the notice of the Department, mainly through the agency of the School Medical Service. These cases came from 91 families living in all parts of the district. The parishes with the largest numbers of cases were East Wittering and Westbourne each with 31 cases, Birdham with 21 cases, Silllesham and Middleton-on-Sea each with 20 cases, Selsey with 18 cases, Walberton with 13 cases and Chidham with 12 cases.

Re-infestations were recorded in six families during the year. Cases occurred throughout the year, but the incidence was greatest during the last quarter. Although the number of cases in the district was comparatively small when compared with the numbers occurring in some urban areas, considerable difficulties have been experienced in the arranging of satisfactory treatment and the 'following up' of cases. These difficulties have been due in part to the geographical arrangement of the District, namely :- a country area of approximately 20 miles by 15 miles with the two centres of population formed into separate Local Authorities. As the Council had no treatment facilities available, arrangements were made through the County Medical Officer of Health for cases to be treated at the St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester. This arrangement has worked fairly well, but as treatment can only be given at the Hospital on certain days and to limited numbers, it has sometimes been impossible to arrange treatment for cases until a week or more after notification.

A suggestion was put forward for the establishment, jointly with the City of Chichester Corporation, of a special treatment centre, but as facilities were available at St. Richard's Hospital, the scheme was not proceeded with.

No disinfection plant being available in the Rural District, all bedding etc. for disinfection has had to be brought in to the disinfection stations at Bognor Regis or Chichester for treatment, this arrangement involving considerable expense in transport.

Another difficulty has been to arrange treatment and disinfection to take place on the same day.

With so many Local Authorities involved, there appears to be no easy solution to the problem.

The following table summarises the cases brought to notice during the year :-

Month	No. of Cases.	No. of Families involved.	No. treated at St. Richard's Hospital.
January	12	3	12
February	13	5	11
March	21	10	15
April	9	2	9
May	12	9	10
June	6	3	9
July	13	5	12
August	2	1	2
September	38	15	26
October	52	15	24
November	22	11	22
December	26	12	24
TOTALS	226	91	176

Formal use of the Scabies Order, 1941, has been made on two occasions. In the first case the persons concerned presented themselves for medical examination as required.

In the other case the Order to attend for examination was ignored, and the matter was referred to the Police Authority who issued summonses against the persons concerned, who, in the meantime had left the district.

The cases were heard before the Court of Summary Jurisdiction at Littlehampton in February, 1943, and the Magistrates imposed a penalty of 10/- on each of the three defaulters, none of whom appeared before the Court.

Venereal Diseases.

As the Council is not an authority responsible for the treatment of venereal diseases, no definite statistics are available regarding its incidence in the district. Some indication of its prevalence can, however, be obtained from the notifications received from Medical Officers attached to certain Dominion Units which have been stationed in the district from time to time. During the year 9 notifications of suspected syphilis and 39 of suspected gonorrhoea were received. These figures relating as they do to a very limited section of the community, give the impression that venereal disease is much more prevalent in this district than is commonly thought.

Table showing cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the year.

Disease	Total No. of Cases Notified.		Cases admitted to hospital.		Total deaths.	Age distribution											
	C.	N.C.	C.	N.C.		Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	over 65
Whooping Cough	101	-	4	-	1	9	11	9	14	42	4	2	1	1	1	-	-
Measles	94	1	5	-	1	6	4	14	7	32	14	6	6	2	2	-	-
Scarlet Fever	48	2	41	2	-	2	3	6	2	25	3	2	6	-	1	-	-
Erysipelas	14	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	5	-	5
Acute Primary Pneumonia	7	6	2	-	13 x	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	2
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-
Diphtheria	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	4	1	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	277	12	55	2	15	12	17	18	25	100	23	11	28	7	11	7	7

x This figure includes deaths from all forms of Pneumonia registered during the year.